

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A data storage device for storing and accessing data, the storage device comprising:

a motor;

at least one movable medium coupled to the motor and capable of being moved by the motor and thereby generating a turbulent airflow; and

a slider support formed of a track accessing arm and a suspension and comprising at least one surface comprising at least two grooves, each groove having a groove axis oriented substantially perpendicular to a mean airflow direction and separated from the other groove axis in a direction substantially parallel to the mean airflow direction by a distance of less than 30 miliinches so as to cause vortices in a turbulent airflow generated by the medium to be kept distant from the surface.

2. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 1 wherein the surface comprises at least three evenly spaced grooves.

3. (Currently Amended) The data storage device of claim 1 wherein the grooves are V-shaped. and are spaced apart by a distance of less than 30 miliinches.

4. (Withdrawn) The data storage device of claim 1 wherein the grooves are curved.

5. (Withdrawn) The data storage device of claim 1 wherein the grooves are separated by a planar surface.

6. (Withdrawn) The data storage device of claim 1 wherein the grooves are separated by a curved surface.

7. (Withdrawn) The data storage device of claim 1 wherein the surface forms part of an E-block assembly.

8. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 1 wherein the surface forms part of a suspension.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A surface for a component of a structure that supports a slider in a data storage device, the surface comprising:

a first groove having a groove axis that is substantially perpendicular to a direction of expected mean air flow; and

a second groove proximate the first groove and having a groove axis that is substantially perpendicular to the expected mean air flow and that is separated from the first groove axis by a distance of less than 30 milinches in a direction that is substantially parallel to the expected mean air flow such that the first and second grooves cooperate to keep vortices in the air flow some distance from the surface.

12. (Original) The surface of claim 11 wherein the first groove and the second groove are V-shaped.

13. (Withdrawn) The surface of claim 11 wherein the first groove and the second groove are curved.

14. (Withdrawn) The surface of claim 11 wherein the surface forms part of an E-block assembly.

15. (Original) The surface of claim 11 wherein the surface forms part of a suspension.

16. (Original) The surface of claim 11 wherein the first groove borders the second groove.

17. (Withdrawn) The surface of claim 11 wherein the first groove is separated from the second groove by a planar surface.

18. (Withdrawn) The surface of claim 11 wherein the first groove is separated from the second groove by a curved surface.

19. (Currently Amended) A data storage device for storing and accessing data, the data storage device comprising:

a moving medium that generates an airflow having eddies in the data storage device; and
excitation reduction means defining a surface on a slider support structure in the data storage device for reducing the excitation of the surface by causing eddies in the airflow to be moved away from the surface, the excitation reduction means comprising grooves separated by less than 30 milinches.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 20 wherein the grooves are V-shaped.

22. (Withdrawn) The data storage device of claim 20 wherein the grooves are curved.

23. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 20 wherein the grooves are evenly spaced.